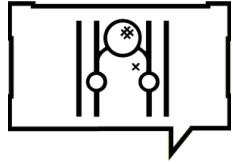


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2023

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media

#Free
Turkey
Journalists



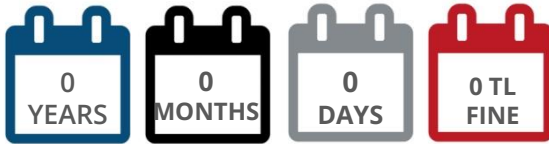
21 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

- 14 SENTENCED
- 7 ONGOING TRIAL



TRIALS CALENDAR

In August, **no journalist trials** were held due to judicial recess.



In September, at least **22 journalist trials** will be held. See the calendar [here](#) →

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- On August 28, the website of Voice of America's (VOA) Turkish service was [blocked](#) across Turkey after the international broadcaster refused to file a license application as demanded by the government's broadcast regulator RTÜK.
- A Diyarbakır court [extended](#) the pre-trial detention of Mezopotamya Agency's (MA) reporter [Firat Can Arslan](#), who has been [in custody since July 25](#) for allegedly "identifying officials on anti-terror duties as targets".

MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN AUGUST 2023

- IPI and 18 other media organizations condemned the latest judicial harassment against journalist Barış Pehlivan who was thrown behind bars for the fifth time in August 15.

Joint statement [here](#) →

- IPI continues to publish weekly media crackdown threads on Twitter. Our August list:

August 1 - 4 [here](#) →

August 7 - 11 [here](#) →

August 14 - 18 [here](#) →

August 21 - 25 [here](#) →

August 28 - 31 [here](#) →

- Read more [here](#) →

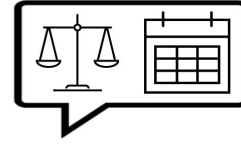
IPI'S WORK IN TURKEY



- **IPI - Medyascope Programme "The Journalist"**: Watch the [30th episode](#) with Cumhuriyet newspaper columnist, Barış Terkoğlu on fifth imprisonment order against journalist Barış Pehlivan and sanctions against quality journalism in Turkey, hosted by İpek Yezdani. All episodes [available here](#).
- **IPI Turkey Dispatches**: Read the [article](#) by Sevilay Nur Saraçlar on how journalists benefit from the concept of "self-reflection" in their daily tasks and how the learning environment of it can create better journalism.

TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING JOURNALIST TRIALS IN SEPTEMBER

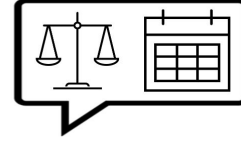


DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)
05.09.2023	HAYKO BAĞDAT (TRIAL 2)	İSTANBUL 28. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS
06.09.2023	RUŞEN TAKVA	HAKKARİ CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY DISSEMINATING MISLEADING INFORMATION (DISINFORMATION LAW)
07.09.2023	MANSUR ÇELİK	ANKARA 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
08.09.2023	ZİYA ÇİÇEKÇİ	İSTANBUL 33. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
11.09.2023	CEM BAHTİYAR	BALIKESİR 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
12.09.2023	BARIŞ TERKOĞLU	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY
13.09.2023	RABİA ÇETİN	İSTANBUL 23 HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS; OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY
14.09.2023	HÜSEYİN AYKOL, REYHAN ÇAPAN (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PRAISING AN OFFENSE OR AN OFFENDER
14.09.2023	ABDURRAHMAN GÖK	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
19.09.2023	ABDULLAH KAYA	AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
19.09.2023	SULTAN EYLEM KELEŞ	İSTANBUL 56. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY: RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY
19.09.2023	FURKAN KARABAY	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY
21.09.2023	TAYLAN ÖZTAŞ, TUNAHAH TURNA	ANADOLU 13. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS; RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY
22.09.2023	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ (TRIAL 1)	ANKARA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY
22.09.2023	BARIŞ PEHLİVAN, MUSTAFA BÜYÜKSİPAHİ	ANKARA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY
22.09.2023	PAKRAT ESTUKYAN, RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, CİHAN DOĞAN, MEHMET NİMET SEVİM	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA



TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING JOURNALIST TRIALS IN SEPTEMBER



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)
25.09.2023	CİHAN DOĞAN, MUSA ŞANAK, ZÜLAL NAZAN ÜSTÜNDAĞ, RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, HAYDAR ERGÜL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING THE TURKISH NATION, STATE OF TURKISH REPUBLIC, THE ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE STATE
26.09.2023	REYHAN ÇAPAN	İSTANBUL 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS; PUBLISHING STATEMENTS ON BEHALF OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
26.09.2023	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ (TRIAL 2)	ANKARA 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY
26.09.2023	METİN CİHAN	İSTANBUL 36. CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY (BERAT ALBAYRAK)
27.09.2023	HAYKO BAĞDAT (TRIAL 1)	İSTANBUL 50. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
28.09.2023	EREN TUTEL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY



○ FREE TURKEY JOURNALISTS NEWSROOM

The International Press Institute ([IPI](#)) closely follows developments on press freedom and journalists' rights in the country. Here is some of our most recent content on Turkey.



○ Turkey: IPI calls on regulator to lift block on VOA Turkish service

August 30, 2023

IPI called on government's broadcast regulator RTÜK, to lift access block on website of Voice of America's (VOA) Turkish service and act according to its mandate to secure freedom of expression and media pluralism in the country.

[Read more](#)



○ Self-reflection for better journalism

August 17, 2023

How journalists benefit from the concept of "self-reflection" and how the learning environment of it can create better journalism, written by Sevilay Nur Saraçlar - journalist and member of IPI's Turkish National Committee.

[Read more](#)



○ Turkey: International groups condemn fifth imprisonment order against journalist Barış Pehlivan

August 9, 2023

IPI and 18 other media organizations strongly condemned the latest incident of judicial harassment against journalist Barış Pehlivan and reiterated calls to the Turkish authorities to respect media freedom.

[Read more](#)

